Town of Darlington

2008 Drinking Water Quality Report

PWSID: 012 0009

Important Information about your Drinking Water:

Special points of interest:

- The water at Darlington was tested for over 120 different compounds
- The Darlington Drinking water meets all State and Federal requirements
- Drinking Water, including bottled water, may reasonably be expected to contain at least small amounts of some compounds. The presence of these compounds does not necessarily indicate that water poses a health risk. More information about contaminants and potential health effects can be obtained by calling the Environmental Protection Agency's (EPA's) Safe Drinking Water Act Hotline (1-800-426-4791)

We're pleased to present to you the Annual Water Quality Report for 2008. This report is designed to inform you about the water quality and services we deliver to you every day. Maryland Environmental Service, an Agency of the State of Maryland, operates the water treatment facility and prepared this report.

Our goal is to provide you with a safe and dependable supply of drinking water. Last year more than 800 tests for over 120 compounds were conducted on the water at Darlington. We want you to understand the efforts made to continually improve the water treatment process and protect our water resources. We are committed to ensuring the quality of your water.

We're pleased to report that your drinking water meets all Federal and State requirements. This report shows the water quality and explains what it means.

If you have any questions about this report or have questions concerning your water utility, please contact **Mr. Jay Janney at (410)729-8350 or jjann@menv.com**

Public Meeting Information: For the opportunity to ask more questions or participate in decisions that may affect your drinking water quality, MES' Board of Directors meets each month at the Millersville headquarter. Please contact Mr. Jay Janney at 410-729-8350 and/or refer to MES website at http://www.menv.com for further information.

The water for Darlington comes from two wells in the quartz gabbro and diorite gneiss rock formations. After the water is pumped out of the wells, we adjust the pH and add disinfectant to protect against microbial contaminants. The Maryland Department of the Environment has completed an assessment of the source water. If you are interested in receiving a copy of the source water assessment report please call Jay Janney at 410-729-8350 or email your request to jjann@menv.com

We want everyone to be informed about their water.

Some people may be more vulnerable to contaminants in drinking water than the general population. Immuno-compromised persons such as persons with cancer undergoing chemotherapy, persons who have undergone organ transplants, people with HIV/AIDS or other immune system disorders, some elderly, and infants can be particularly at risk from infections. These people should seek advice about drinking water from their health care providers. EPA/CDC guidelines on appropriate means to lessen the risk of infection by Cryptosporidium and other microbial contaminants are available from the Safe Drinking Water Hotline (1-800-426-4791).

Water Quality Data

The table below lists all the drinking water contaminants that we detected during the past several years. The presence of these compounds in the water does not necessarily indicate that the water poses a health risk. Unless otherwise noted, the data presented in the table is from testing done January 1 - December 31, 2008. The State requires us to monitor for certain contaminants less than once per year because the concentrations of these contaminants are not expected to vary significantly from year to year.

Town of Darlington Treated Water Quality Report 2008				
Definitions				
Maximum Contaminant Level (MCL)	The highest level of a contaminant that is allowed in drinking water. MCL's are set as close to the MCLG's as feasible using the best available treatment technology.			
Maximum Contaminant Level Goal (MCLG)	The level of a contaminant in drinking water below which there is no known or expected risk to health. MCLG's allow for a margin of safety.			
Action Level	The concentration of a contaminant which, if exceeded, triggers treatment or other requirements which a water system must follow.			
ppm = parts per million or milligrams per liter				
ppb = parts per billion or micrograms per liter				
pCi/l = picocuries per liter (a measure of radiation)				
Contaminant	**Highest Level Allowed (EPA's MCL)**	**Highest Level Detected**	**Ideal Goal (EPA's MCLG)**	**Typical Sources of Contaminant**
Regulated at the Treatment Plant				
Total Trihalomethanes (TTHM) (2007 Testing)	80 ppb	0.55 ppb	n/a	By-product of drinking water disinfection
Wells 1A (1) and 1B (2)				
Di (2-ethylhexyl) phthalate	6 ppb	1.55 ppb	0 ppb	PVC Plastics
Arsenic (2007 Testing)	10 ppb	3 ppb	n/a	Erosion of natural deposit
Nitrate	10 ppm	4.22 ppm	10 ppm	Runoff from fertilizer use; erosion
Gross Alpha (2002 Testing)	15 pCi/l	1 pCi/l	0 pCi/l	Erosion of natural deposits
Wells 2 and 3				
Nitrate (2003 Testing)	10 ppm	3.62 ppm	10 ppm	Runoff from fertilizer use; erosion
Regulated at the Consumer's Tap				
Copper	1.3 ppm (action level)	90th percentile = 0.219 ppm	1.3 ppm	Corrosion of household plumbing fixtures and systems

In order to ensure that tap water is safe to drink, EPA prescribes regulations which limit the amount of certain compounds in water provided by public water systems. We treat our water according to EPA's regulations. Food and Drug Administration regulations establish limits for contaminants in bottled water which must provide the same protection for public health.

The sources of drinking water (both tap water and bottled water) include rivers, lakes, streams, ponds, reservoirs, springs and wells. As water travels over the surface of the land or through the ground, it dissolves naturally-occurring minerals and, in some cases radioactive material, and can pick up substances resulting from the presence of animals or from human activity.

MARYLAND ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICE